## Today's News - Friday, October 12, 2007

We lose the master of the Metabolism Movement. – Will proposals for Hudson Yards be the same-old same old, or save NYC "from global obsolescence"? – Green architects are "breathing new life into the most ungreen of building types." – Hume takes on the Moses/Jacobs conundrum. – Boddy is hopeful but doubtful re: Vancouver's EcoDensity plans. – An in-depth look at community-level planning re: Columbia University's expansion plan. – Kaplan finds lessons to be learned from "Park(ing) Day L.A." and the potential of public spaces. – On "environmental utopia" and "downtrodden Brits often look enviously at Scandinavian countries." – Check out Foster's U2 tower plan for Dublin. – A \$5 billion MGM Grand headed for Atlantic City. – University of Toronto shows off three finalists for law school expansion. – U.K.'s 2007 Prime Minister's Better Public Building Award winner. – Chicagoans picks their favorite in Partners in Preservation contest. – Sinclair talks to Wired. – Hawthome finds Shulman show "a revelation." – Lots to do at Open House Dublin. – Dott 07 Festival hopes to inspire. – Is this for real: a "Tower of Invincibility" headed for D.C.? – Being cat people, we couldn't pass up high-design for feline furniture.

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Obituary: Japanese architect Kurokawa, 73: ...led a style known as the Metabolism Movement, advocating a shift from "machine principle" to "life principle" in his work and architectural designs based on themes including ecology, recycling and intermediate space. (AP)- International Herald Tribune

The Next New York: Will five new proposals for the redevelopment of Hudson Yards offer up the same old thing - or set the stage for the next era of growth...intended to set Manhattan on course for the 21st century and save the city from global obsolescence. — Steven Holl; Cesar and Rafael Pelli/Pelli Clarke Pelli; FXFowle; Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF); Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Helmut Jahn- The Slatin Report

The Tower: An Anachronism Awaiting Rebirth? ...ironically, the green agenda and quest for sustainability...might reinvent and reinvigorate the tall building... Now green architects are breathing new life into the most ungreen of building types... — Foster; Rogers; Piano; Herman Hertzberger; Niels Torp; Marks & Barfield; Bill Dunster-Harvard Design Magazine

Is it time for the Great Synthesis? For years, Jane Jacobs and Robert Moses have represented warring visions of city-building. Yet a reassessment of the latter's work in remaking post-war New York City has opened the door to an intriguing marriage of their ideas. By Christopher Hume-Toronto Star

Plans for EcoDensity pretty thin on the ground: ...discussions to date have brought the sausage-making process of city-building into uncomfortable public scrutiny and raised profound questions. By Trevor Boddy- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Community Board Reform and the Columbia Process: Real community-level planning seems to be taking root in Manhattan - a step behind Columbia University's expansion plan...as far as planning goes it was going to encourage a broader, bottom-up process. -- Enrique Peñalosa- City Limits (NYC)

Park for a Day: Recent "Park(ing) Day L.A." Showcases Potential for Public Spaces: ...a welcomed departure from the endless dead-end academic discussions over the prospects of public space. By Sam Hall Kaplan- LA Downtown News

An environmental utopia - up to a point: We downtrodden Brits often look enviously at Scandinavian countries as models of genteel social democracy...But, as is so often the case, the truth is a little more complicated...Sweden seems to have broken the iron link between economic growth and greenhouse-gas emissions...- New Statesman (UK)

Dublin Docklands announces Foster + Partners as provisional preferred architect for U2 Tower: ...proposed a stunning design for the 120 metre high tower and adjacent Britain Quay site... -- Burdon Craig Dunne Henry (bcdh) [image]- Archiseek (Ireland)

MGM Mirage Unveils \$5B Hotel/Casino: MGM Grand Atlantic City will be the tallest building and largest hotel-casino property in this gaming mecca... -- Kohn Pedersen Fox; Rockwell Group [image]- GlobeSt.com

University of Toronto unveils proposed law school designs: Three Canadian designs have been narrowed down from the original shortlist of six... -- Hariri Pontarini Architects; Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects (KPMB); Saucier + Perrotte [images]- National Post (Canada)

Dalby Forest Visitor Centre in North Yorkshire, by Bristol-based White Design, has won the 2007 Prime Minister's Better Public Building Award. [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Chinatown site tops 25 Chicago-area landmarks, wins \$100,000 for rehab: On Leong Merchants Association Building (Pui Tak Center) wins American Express/National Trust for Historic Preservation Partners in Preservation contest. By Blair Kamin -- Michaelsen and Rognstad (1928) [image, links]- Chicago Tribune

Interview: Cameron Sinclair/Architecture for Humanity [video]- PBS/Wired

Taking Julius Shulman out in public: Known more for his photos of private homes, an

exhibition emphasizes his shots of the city..."Julius Shulman's Los Angeles," is a revelation, mostly because it is driven by a strong and surprising point of view. By Christopher Hawthorne- Los Angeles Times

Open House Dublin 2007 October 19-21- Irish Architecture Foundation

Design of the times / Dott 07 Festival: ...to enable local people - interacting with inspiring and visionary designers from around the world - to develop their own visions and scenarios for a prosperous and sustainable region; Baltic Square, October 16-28-Doors of Perception (UK)

Developer Unveils His Plan For Downtown Monument: In the often carnivorous, mine-is-bigger-than-yours realm of real estate developers, Jeffrey Abramson/Tower Cos. stands apart...wants to build a 12-story monument dedicated to peace and freedom — a "Tower of Invincibility"... [image]- Washington Post

Good Design, Happy Cats? It is a simple but profound dilemma that has dogged kitty lovers for ages: Contented pet or stylish pad? ...a number of stylish new products have come on the scene, marrying feline functionality with a contemporary aesthetic...that finicky humans can appreciate. [images]- New York Times

-- TEN Arquitectos/Taller de Enrique Norten Arquitectos: Televisa Mixed Use Building, Mexico City

-- Exhibition: Bjarke Ingels Group/BIG: "Copenhagen Experiments" at Storefront for Art & Architecture, New York City

-- Latest News: arcspace Virtual Community, Second Life

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